



CDC

SWEETHEARTS

A CHARLTON PUBLICATION

VOL. 2
No. 24



10¢

LOVE UNSEEN &
WHILE THEY WAIT
BETRAYAL



WEB COMIC
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GAIN MORE WEIGHT IN 10 DAYS OR YOUR MONEY BACK!



SKINNY

MEN ARE OFTEN ASHAMED TO STRIP FOR SPORTS OR FOR A SWIM!

GIRLS ARE NOT ALLURING AND DON'T HAVE EYE-CATCHING CURVES!

CHILDREN WHO WON'T EAT AND ARE UNDER-WEIGHT, OFTEN CALLED SKINNY!

Now at last More-Wate plan that puts firm, attractive pounds and inches on your body, chest, arms and legs.

No Skinny Scare-Crow for me!



Amazing New Way developed by modern medical science to put on weight on lean bodies. Guaranteed to give you up to an extra pound a day! Or your money back! Why should you dread going to parties and socials, simply because you look scrawny and spindly? Why ever feel self-conscious about your body again? If you're underweight* . . . or just a little on the thin side, due to faulty appetite, or had dietary habits, you can put on up to a pound a day of attractive weight without exercise . . . dangerous drugs . . . or special diet . . . and more quickly, more easily than you ever dreamed possible . . . with MORE-WATE. MORE-WATE contains no

dangerous drugs . . . you eat it like candy! Yet . . . if you were to have this same prescription compounded to your order, it would cost you many times more. However, through this introductory offer, you can obtain 4-way MORE-WATE tablets . . . a full 10 days' supply . . . for just \$1.00 or a 30 day supply for only \$2.98, plus a 10 day supply free, with an absolute money-back guarantee! Yes, try MORE-WATE for TEN DAYS . . . and if not entirely delighted with weight gained, return the unused supply for full refund! You've nothing to lose . . . and weight to gain! Act now! Stop being the guy or the gal that everyone calls "skinny." Stop being the guy or the gal who dreads

Not one child yet has failed to go for and ask for more MORE-WATE tablets! Stop worrying about children not eating enough, give them MORE-WATE tablets—it stimulates their appetite . . . they eat it like candy!

summer and going to parties and socials because it means everyone will enjoy themselves and you won't. Don't be a wallflower, because you have a figure like a broomstick! Gain more weight!

10-DAY SUPPLY ONLY \$1.

The 4-way MORE-WATE tablets, are secondarily guaranteed to put on weight . . . or it doesn't cost you a penny! MORE-WATE is a delicious, full strength, 4-way tablet . . . that combines not just one . . . or two . . . but 4 of the most amazing aids for gaining weight known to medical science. MORE-WATE is not a liquid . . . not a powder. It's delicious, pleasant-tasting tablet! It contains vitamin B-12 . . . the amazing red vitamin doctors give many underweight patients in hospitals . . . It contains Iron that helps correct iron deficiency, anemia and builds rich, red blood. It contains appetite-building vitamin B-1 . . . and it contains nutritious easily assimilated malt, the amazing ingredient that helps your body turn much of the food you eat into well rounded flesh instead of being wasted. That's the secret of putting on weight. Now you can help your food to add new pounds to your arms, chest, hips, thighs, and legs. Now you don't have to be skinny . . . or afraid to be seen socially and be ashamed of your figure! You must achieve the figure you want . . . or don't pay anything. Act now!

We don't want SKINNY on our team!



SENSATIONAL 10-DAY TEST!

Mail the coupon now! Test the amazing MORE-WATE tablet plan for 10 days at our expense. If after 10 days your friends, your mirror and your scale do not tell you that you have gained weight and look better you pay nothing!

MAIL THIS NO RISK TRIAL COUPON NOW!

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318 Market Street, Newark, N. J.

Just mail us your name and address, and \$1.00 cash, check or money order. You will receive a 10 day supply of MORE-WATE tablets and plan, postage prepaid.

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SENT ON APPROVAL—MAKE AMAZING 10-DAY TEST

SWETHEARTS

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Volume 2, Number 24

June-July, 1954

SWEETHEARTS

the following outstanding magazines are easily identified on their covers by the words A CHARLTON PUBLICATION
 ATOMIC MOUSE • COWBOY WESTERN HEROES • CRIME AND JUSTICE • FUNNY ANIMALS
 EMI dig this crazy comic • HAUNTED • HOT RODS AND RACING CARS • ZOO FUNNIES
 LASH LARUE WESTERN • ROCKY LANE WESTERN • RACKET SQUAD • SIX-GUN HEROES
 ROMANTIC STORY • SCIENCE-FICTION SPACE ADVENTURES • STRANGE SUSPENSE STORIES
 SWEETHEARTS • TEX RITTER WESTERN • TRUE LIFE SECRETS • TV TRUNK • THE THING

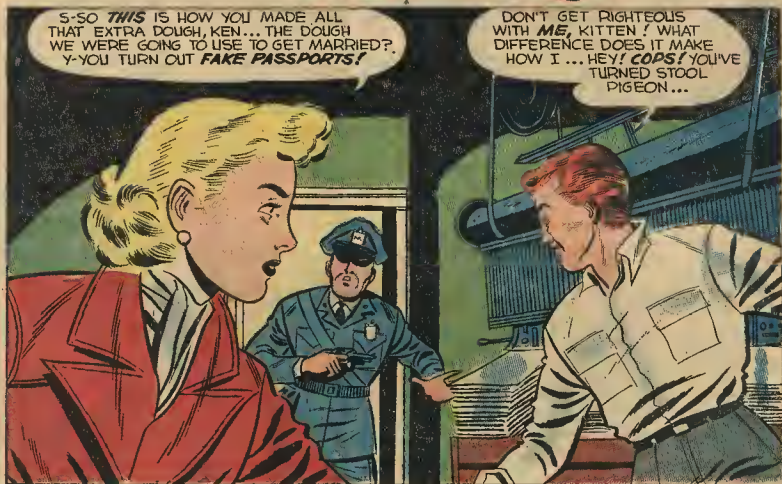
Every effort is made to insure that these comic magazines contain the highest quality of wholesome entertainment.

I HAD COME TO LOVE KEN AS MUCH AS LIFE ITSELF... AND YET MY DUTY WAS INDELIBLY ETCHED IN MY BRAIN... I HAD TO PUSH ASIDE THE URGENT PLEAS OF MY OWN HEART, AND LET MY CONSCIENCE LEAD HIM INTO...

Betrayal

S-SO **THIS** IS HOW YOU MADE ALL THAT EXTRA DOUGH, KEN... THE DOUGH WE WERE GOING TO USE TO GET MARRIED? Y-YOU TURN OUT **FAKE PASSPORTS!**

DON'T GET RIGHTEOUS WITH **ME**, KITTEN! WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE HOW I ... HEY! **COPS!** YOU'VE TURNED STOOL PIGEON...



THE PEOPLE I WORKED WITH WERE DETERMINED TO CUT IN ON A BOOMING RACKET... THAT WAS HOW I CAME TO BE AT THE ATLAS PRESS FOR A JOB. I WAS INTRODUCED TO KEN DEXTER, WHO WAS TO SHOW ME AROUND THE SHOP.

GREETINGS, GORGEOUS! IT'LL BE LIKE HEAVEN TO BE ABLE TO LOOK AT **YOU** INSTEAD OF THIS GRIMY GANG OF PRINTERS! C'MON ... WE CAN BECOME OLD FRIENDS WHILE WE TOUR THE JOINT!

THE BOSS TOLD ME TO GET IN SOLID WITH SOME-

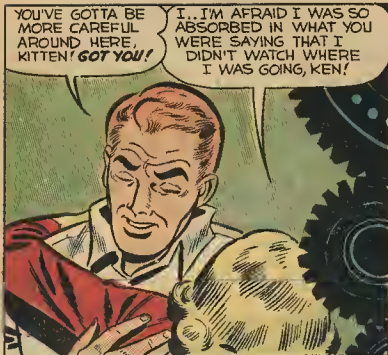
ONE WORKING HERE ... THIS CHARACTER'S TAKING CARE OF THAT PART OF MY JOB!



I COULD TELL FROM KEN'S EYES AS HE LOOKED ME OVER WITH OBVIOUS DELIGHT, THAT HE'D BE A PUSHOVER. BUT, JUST TO BE SURE...

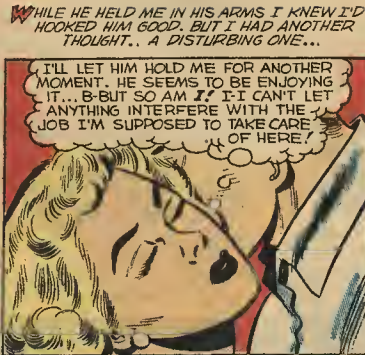
...AND THIS PRESS CAN TURN OUT 5,000 SHEETS AN ... WATCH OUT!





YOU'VE GOTTA BE MORE CAREFUL AROUND HERE, KITTEN! **GOT YOU!**

I.. I'M AFRAID I WAS SO ABSORBED IN WHAT YOU WERE SAYING THAT I DIDN'T WATCH WHERE I WAS GOING, KEN!

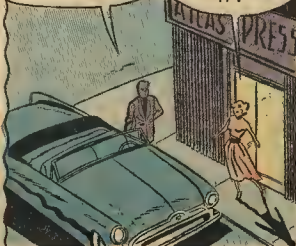


I'LL LET HIM HOLD ME FOR ANOTHER MOMENT. HE SEEMS TO BE ENJOYING IT... B-BUT SO AM I! I CAN'T LET ANYTHING INTERFERE WITH THE JOB I'M SUPPOSED TO TAKE CARE OF HERE!

I WENT THROUGH THE MOTIONS THAT FIRST DAY, PRETENDING TO BE ABSORBED BY MY NEW JOB. AT FIVE O'CLOCK KEN WAS WAITING.. AS I'D HOPED..

HOP IN, PRINCESS. I'M FREE AS A BREEZE TONIGHT.. AND I KNOW THE COZIEST BEANERY IN TOWN! HOW ABOUT DINNER?

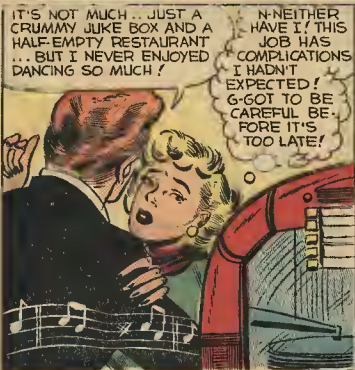
I SORT OF HAD A DATE WITH A GIRL-FRIEND, KEN, BUT.. BUT I'LL BREAK IT!



AS WE DROVE ACROSS TOWN I COULDN'T KEEP MY EYES OFF KEN. HE WAS RUGGEDLY GOOD-LOOKING AND HIS ATTENTIONS WERE ENOUGH TO TURN ANY GAL'S HEAD... EXCEPT MINE, I REASSURED MYSELF! THEN...



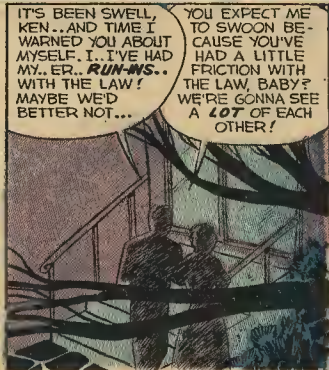
GLAD TO MEET YOU, RITA! ANYBODY KEN LIKES IS ACES WITH **US!**



IT'S NOT MUCH... JUST A CRUMMY JUKE BOX AND A HALF-EMPTY RESTAURANT... BUT I NEVER ENJOYED DANCING SO MUCH!

N-EITHER HAVE I! THIS JOB HAS COMPLICATIONS I HADN'T EXPECTED! G-GOT TO BE CAREFUL BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

I HAD KNOWN KEN JUST ONE DAY, BUT IT WAS ENOUGH FOR ME TO REALIZE THAT I DIDN'T WANT TO HURT HIM. AND SO, AFTER HE BROUGHT ME HOME...



IT'S BEEN SWELL, KEN... AND TIME I WARNED YOU ABOUT MYSELF. I.. I'VE HAD MY.. ER.. **RUN-INS..** WITH THE LAW! MAYBE WE'D BETTER NOT...

YOU EXPECT ME TO SWOON BECAUSE YOU'VE HAD A LITTLE FRICTION WITH THE LAW, BABY? WE'RE GONNA SEE A **LOT** OF EACH OTHER!

SWEETHEARTS

MY CONFESSION SEEMED, SOMEHOW, TO BRING US CLOSER TOGETHER. AND, EVEN THOUGH THIS WAS JUST A "JOB" I REALIZED WITH DISMAY THAT I WAS BECOMING MIGHTY FOND OF KEN...



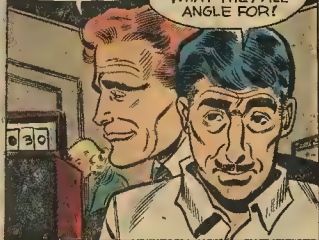
AND AFTER BOWLING TOMORROW, THERE'S A MIDNIGHT CRUISE UP THE HUDSON. THEN WE... WHAT'S THE MATTER... GAT GOT YOUR TONGUE?

I... I HAVE A SPLITTING HEADACHE, KEN. WOULD YOU MIND TAKING ME HOME?



DAMES... HOW DO YOU FIGURE 'EM, TONY? I'M NUTS ABOUT RITA... AND SHE'S BEEN AWFULLY FRIENDLY RIGHT BACK! NOW, FOR THE LAST DAY OR SO, SHE'S BEEN... WELL... **COLD!**

THE WEDDING RING, KEN. THAT'S WHAT THEY ALL ANGLE FOR!



MY HEART WAS TORTURED BY THE REALIZATION THAT I MIGHT BE LEADING KEN TO DISASTER. THE CLEAN BREAK I PLANNED MIGHT BE THE ANSWER, I PRAYED. BUT...

C'MON, KITTEN... TELL PAPA! IT'S MARRIAGE THAT'S BOTHERING YOU, EH? AFRAID I'VE JUST BEEN PLAYING AROUND?

N-NO, KEN... I-I LIKE YOU A LOT, BUT...

RESTAURANT



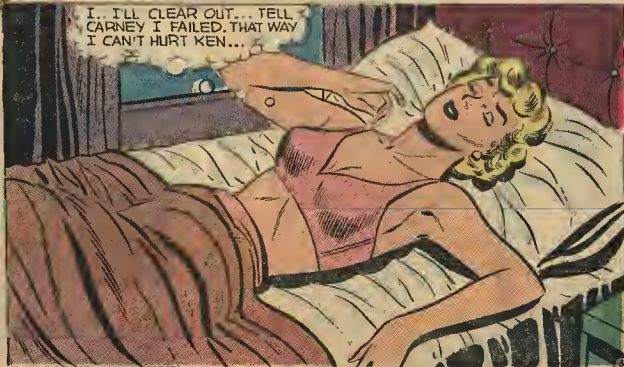
BEFORE I COULD STAMMER OUT AN ANSWER, KEN'S LIPS WERE PRESSED HUNGRILY AGAINST MINE AND ELECTRIC SHOCKS PULSED DANGEROUSLY THROUGH MY BODY. I FOUGHT AGAINST THE DESIRE TO CARESS KEN, BUT I HAD LOST CONTROL OF MY ACTIONS...

DARLING... I LOVE YOU SO. BUT ALL I CAN BRING YOU IS TROUBLE!



THAT NIGHT MY BRAIN CHURNED WITH MISGIVINGS AND DOUBTS. IF I SUCCEEDED IN MY "JOB", IT WOULD MEAN BETRAYING THE MAN I HAD LOST MY HEART TO. WHAT WAS I TO DO?

I... I'LL CLEAR OUT... TELL CARNEY I FAILED. THAT WAY I CAN'T HURT KEN...



SWEETHEARTS

W-WHY DID **THIS** HAVE TO HAPPEN? IF I WASN'T ACTING LIKE A LOVE-SICK SAP EVERYTHING COULD WORK OUT FINE. CARNEY AND THE BOYS'D MOVE IN ON THE PRESS AND MAKE A KILLING. B-BUT **THIS** WAY KEN MAY GET HURT...



SO AS NOT TO AROUSE SUSPICION, I RETURNED TO THE OFFICE THE NEXT DAY, SECRETLY PLANNING TO SNEAK OUT OF KEN'S LIFE THAT SAME NIGHT. BUT, AT QUITTING TIME, AS I WAS CLEANING OUT MY DESK...

PLANNING TO WALK OUT WITH THE COMPANY'S BANK-ROLL, BABY? YOU FORGETTING OUR DATE TONIGHT?

OH... **KEN!** I..UH..I'LL BE READY WHEN YOU PICK ME UP!



NO NEED FOR THAT, RITA! I'LL GET MY DUDS HERE AND CHANGE AND WE'LL GO RIGHT OVER TO TONY'S PLACE FOR SOME EATS. I GOT SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO TELL YOU!

T-THE PHONE, KEN..I-I BETTER ANSWER IT!



MY BRAIN REELED AS I HEARD THE VOICE AT THE OTHER END OF THE PHONE. IT WAS CARNEY HIMSELF!

WHAT GIVES, SISTER? IT'S TAKING YOU AN AWFUL LONG TIME TO CASE THAT JOINT! THE BOYS'RE WATCHING YOU... SEE THAT YOU GET THE INFO WE SENT YOU FOR! **FAST!**



TREMBLING WITH FEAR, I HUNG UP. I SHUDDERED WITH APPREHENSION, THEN THE PRESSURE OF KEN'S HANDS BROUGHT ME BACK TO REALITY...

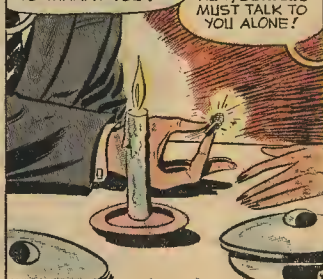
YOU'VE SURE BEEN ACTING FUNNY LATELY, KITTEN... WHAT KIND OF RACKET YOU INVOLVED IN ON THE SIDE? WAIT..DON'T ANSWER! I ORDERED A SPECIAL FEAST OVER AT TONY'S...LET'S GET GOING!



IT WAS LIKE A HIDEOUS NIGHTMARE... THIS MEAL THAT KEN DIDN'T KNOW WAS TO BE OUR LAST TOGETHER. MY HEART WAS BREAKING, BUT I MANAGED TO SMILE, UNTIL...

IT ISN'T EXACTLY BUNDING, BUT IT'S ALL I COULD STEAL AT THE MOMENT. SPEECHLESS, RITA? DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE SURPRISED TO LEARN I WANT TO MARRY YOU?

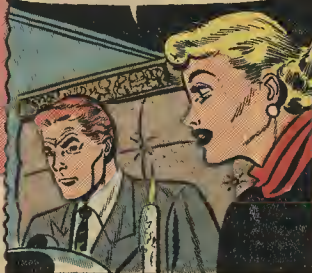
IT'S BEAUTIFUL, KEN, BUT...I-I MUST TALK TO YOU ALONE!



SWEETHEARTS

TONY AND ANGELA LEFT WITH SUSPICIOUS BACKWARD GLANCES, WHEN THEY WERE OUT OF EARSHOT I SWALLOWED AND PLUNGED INTO THE CRUELEST LIE I HAD EVER TOLD...

I'M SORRY THIS GOT OUT OF HAND, KEN... IT WAS ONLY A MILD FLIRTATION ON MY PART! I'VE BEEN ACCUSTOMED TO FURS... FANCY CARS... THINGS A BOY LIKE YOU COULDN'T AFFORD!



JUST TEASING ME, WERE YOU? PLAYING AROUND WITH A KID, EH? WELL, **YOU** HAVE A SURPRISE COMING! C'MON... I'M GONNA SHOW YOU THAT LITTLE KEN CAN BUY AND SELL THESE CHARACTERS WHO BUY FURS AND CARS!

W-WAIT, KEN... IT'S NO USE...



YOU THOUGHT I WAS JUST A YOKEL? THERE'S SOMETHING HERE THAT'LL CHANGE YOUR MERCENARY LITTLE MIND... PROVE THAT I KNOW MY WAY AROUND!

N-NO, KEN.. PLEASE!



THE STUFF IN THIS VAULT IS WORTH A HUNDRED GRAND, BABY! AND HALF OF IT IS **MINE**, SEE? IF I WASN'T CRAZY ABOUT YOU I WOULDN'T STICK MY NECK OUT BY TELLING YOU ABOUT IT!

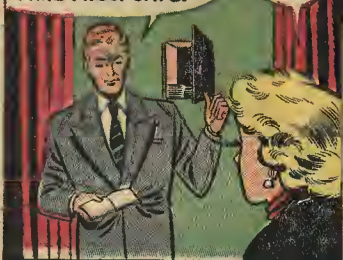
D-DON'T... SOBE.. DARLING...



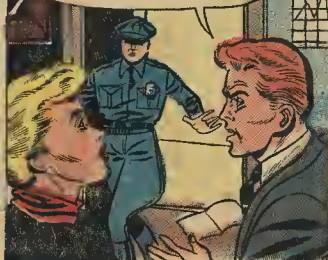
IF IT'S MONEY YOU WANT, KITTEN.. THIS'LL BRING IT IN! WORTH A THOUSAND BUCKS APIECE TO THE RIGHT PEOPLE! ME AND THE BOSS TURN 'EM OUT FOR SPECIAL CLIENTS... **FAKE PASSPORTS!**

PUT THEM BACK ;SOBE BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

NUMBED WITH FEAR, I STARED AT THE PASSPORTS IN MY HAND. THIS WAS THE END OF THE TRAIL CARNEY HAD STARTED ME ON...



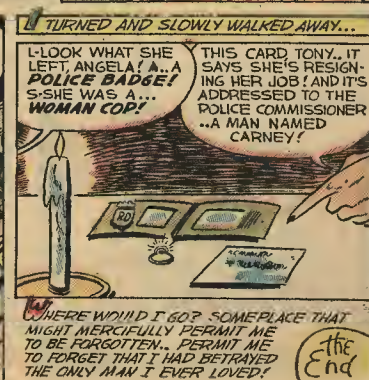
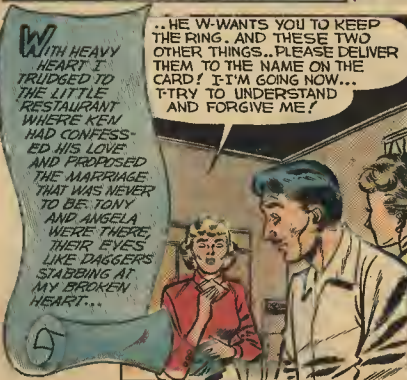
DON'T STARE AT 'EM AS IF THEY'RE POISON, RITA... WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE HOW I BRING HOME THE BACON? WE CAN BE MIGHTY COSY WITH... HEY! **COPS!** YOU.. YOU'RE A LOUSY **STOOLEY!**



SWEETHEARTS



EARLY THE NEXT MORNING I HURRIED DOWN TO THE JAIL WHERE THEY WERE HOLDING KEN. MY VISIT HAD BEEN FORBIDDEN, BUT MY FUTURE USEFULNESS TO CARNEY MATTERED LITTLE NOW...



**WHILE
THEY
WAIT!**

ALL HARRIET WANTED OUT OF LOVE WAS AN INTERLUDE OF PLAYFUL ROMANCE, AS SHE BIDD HER TIME ON THE WILDLY BEAUTIFUL COAST OF FRANCE. UNKNOWINGLY SHE HAD CHOSEN A JOURNEY OF FEARFUL FLIGHT!

SO YOU USE MY LOVE FOR YOU TO PROTECT YOUR BROTHER TOMMY!

TOMMY NEEDS MY HELP. IF YOU CAN'T UNDERSTAND THAT, THERE'S NOTHING MORE FOR US, GEORGE...NOTHING!



THE SHIP DOCKED ON THE SOUTH COAST OF FRANCE AND, AS I WENT ASHORE, I UNDERSTOOD WHY MY BROTHER TOMMY HAD COME HERE SOME MONTHS AGO TO PAINT. THE COAST AGAINST THE DEEP BLUE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN WAS A BEAUTY SPOT OF THE WORLD.

WHY ISN'T TOMMY HERE TO MEET ME? I SHOULDN'T REALLY WORRY. TOMMY'S NEVER BEEN PROMPT ABOUT ANYTHING!

AT YOUR SERVICE, MADAMOISELLE.

I MOTORED TO THE HOTEL WHERE MY RESERVATION HAD BEEN MADE... A SMALL HOSTELRY, BECAUSE THE TRIP OUT OF MY JOB SAVINGS WAS BUDGETED. I CHECKED INTO MY ROOM, STARTED TO UNPACK, AND STILL NO TOMMY.

DEAR, PRECIOUS TOMMY... A LITTLE PRANKISH SOMETIMES. BUT THAT'S TOMMY AND I'LL NEVER FAIL HIM! I'M TALKING AS IF THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG! THAT MUST BE TOMMY AT THE DOOR NOW!



SWEETHEARTS

D OPENED THE DOOR AND STARED IN COMPLETE SURPRISE. IT WASN'T TOMMY WHO CAME IN... IT WAS DON HOWARD, DON WHO HAD BEEN DANCING ATTENDANCE ON ME BACK HOME.

DON, I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE IN FRANCE!

IT WAS AN UNEXPECTED BUSINESS-PLEASURE TRIP! TOMMY TOLD ME YOU WERE EXPECTED, HARRIET. NOW JUST TAKE WHAT I HAVE TO SAY CALMLY!

SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH TOMMY!

TOMMY WAS DRINKING LAST NIGHT AND HIS CAR STRUCK DOWN A FAIRLY PROMINENT MAN! THERE'S A HUE AND CRY OUT FOR THE HIT-AND-RUN DRIVER!

A PASSERBY CAUGHT THE LICENSE NUMBER OF TOMMY'S CAR AND THE POLICE TRACED IT TO HIM! BUT TOMMY HAD REGISTERED THE LICENSE UNDER THE NAME HE'S BEEN PAINTING UNDER HERE, ANDRÉ LE BRECHE! AND TOMMY SPOKE FLUENT FRENCH... SO THE POLICE ARE HUNTING FOR A FRENCHMAN, ANDRÉ LE BRECHE. COME ON, DEAR, I'LL TAKE YOU TO TOMMY!

IN A FEW MINUTES DON AND I WERE DRIVING ALONG A WINDING COASTAL ROAD BANKED ON ONE SIDE BY A HILL. I BRUSHED ASIDE THE FACT THAT TOMMY HAD STRUCK DOWN A MAN. MY FEARFUL THOUGHTS WERE SOLELY CONCERNED WITH THE DANGER MY BROTHER WAS IN.

YOU SAY TOMMY'S HIDING OUT IN A HOUSE ON THE HILL? DON, IT'S SO GOOD OF YOU TO LOOK AFTER HIM!

SHEER LUCK! I HAD RENTED THE HOUSE, THINKING TO STAY ON FOR A WHILE. IT'S JUST THE PLACE FOR TOMMY NOW, UNTIL I ARRANGE TRANSPORTATION FOR US HOME. WE'LL ALL GO BACK TOGETHER. SAY, LET'S STOP FOR A MOMENT AND LOOK AT THE VIEW!



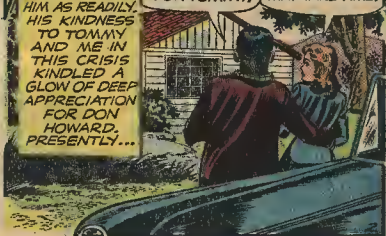
HOLDING YOU IN MY ARMS AGAIN IS WORTH EVERYTHING!

DON... DON!

MY LIPS HAD TASTED DON'S KISS BEFORE. BUT IT WAS THE FIRST TIME I COULD RESPOND TO HIM AS READILY. HIS KINDNESS TO TOMMY AND ME IN THIS CRISIS KINDLED A GLOW OF DEEP APPRECIATION FOR DON HOWARD, PRESENTLY...

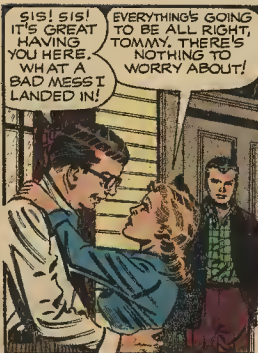
HERE WE ARE! THE NEAREST HOUSE TO IT IS A HALF MILE AWAY AND EMPTY! THIS IS REAL SECLUSION FOR TOMMY!

I'LL WAIT HERE WITH TOMMY UNTIL WE CAN LEAVE. I KNOW TRAVELLING SPACE IS HEAVILY BOOKED AND IT MAY TAKE TIME!



SWEETHEARTS

TOMMY HAD DYED HIS BLONDE HAIR DARK AND WORE GLASSES--- AFFECTING DISGUISE. BUT HE WAS STILL THE SAME TOMMY TO ME. STILL THE LITTLE BOY I HAD LOOKED AFTER SINCE MY FOLKS DIED LONG AGO.



SIS! SIS! IT'S GREAT HAVING YOU HERE. WHAT A BAD MESS I LANDED IN!

EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT, TOMMY. THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT!

WHEN YOU'RE AROUND, SIS, THINGS USUALLY WORK OUT OKAY! DON, WHAT ABOUT THAT TRANSPORTATION? YOUR THE QUICKER I'M OUT OF THIS COUNTRY...

I'M TRYING TO CHARTER A PLANE, YOU AND TOMMY JUST SIT TIGHT. I'LL HAVE YOUR LUGGAGE SENT UP, HARRIET!

ALL THE FOOD SUPPLIES YOU NEED ARE HERE IN THE HOUSE. IF YOU ENCOUNTER ANY ONE, ACT LIKE THANKS A MILLION, DON!



THE SKY DEEPENED TO TWILIGHT AND I PREPARED DINNER FOR TOMMY AND ME, COMPLETE WITH RED FRENCH WINE. WE BOTH TRIED TO MAKE OUR REUNION FESTIVE, BUT WITH THE DEEPENING NIGHT, TENSIONS INCREASED.

I HOPE I'M SAFE! BUT WHAT IF THERE'S A SLIP-UP SOMEPLACE?

THERE CAN'T BE! THE POLICE WANT ANDRÉ LE BRECHE, NOT TOMMY STORCH! NOTHING IS GOING TO HAPPEN TO YOU!



SOMETHING'S HAPPENING TO THE WEATHER---A STORM'S BREAKING! IT'S LIKE AN OMEN--- A BAD SIGN!

WHY DON'T YOU DO SOME PAINTING? THAT WILL KEEP YOU BUSY AND YOU'LL STOP WORRYING!



I'M JUST NOT IN THE MOOD TO DO ANY PAINTING... THAT'S SOME STORM, SAY, WHO'S AT THE DOOR? SIS, DON'T ANSWER!

I'LL HAVE TO, OR WHOEVER'S OUT THERE MAY GET SUSPICIOUS! IT MAY BE ONLY MY LUGGAGE!



I WHISPERED A PRAYER AND OPENED THE DOOR. OUT OF THE LASHING RAIN AND WIND HURRIEDLY STEPPED A TALL BROAD-SHOULDERED MAN.

I DON'T LIKE TO BARGE IN ON YOU! I WAS OUT FOR A WALK WHEN THE STORM BROKE, AND YOURS IS THE ONLY HOUSE IN SIGHT. I'M A NEIGHBOR!

C-COME IN. I DIDN'T KNOW WE HAD ANY NEIGHBORS!



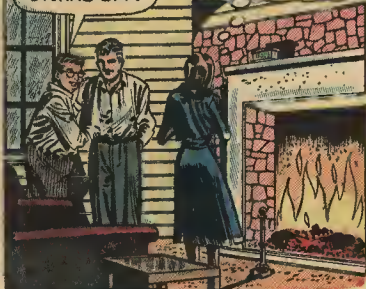
SWEETHEARTS

I'M YOUR ONLY NEIGHBOR, GEORGE MARSHALL. I LIVE HALF A MILE FROM HERE IN WHAT IS GRANDLY CALLED A VILLA! IT'S REALLY A GLORIFIED COTTAGE, MUCH MORE FITTING TO A MATH TEACHER FROM OHIO!

YOU'RE AMERICAN! WE ARE TOO. I'M HARRIET STORCH AND THIS IS MY BROTHER TOMMY!

HI, NEIGHBOR! SIS, THIS MAN'S DRENCHED. HE NEEDS A DRYING OFF!

THANK HEAVENS TOMMY'S ACTING HIS OLD CHEERFUL SELF



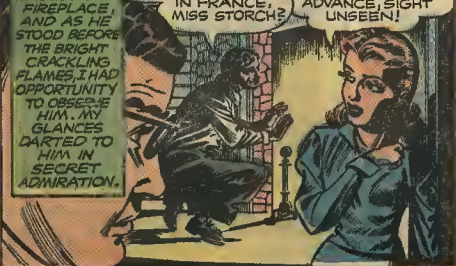
GEORGE MARSHALL EXPERTLY KINDLED THE FIREPLACE, AND AS HE STOOD BEFORE THE BRIGHT CRACKLING FLAMES, I HAD OPPORTUNITY TO OBSESS HIM. MY GLANCES DARTED TO HIM IN SECRET ADMIRATION.

THIS FEELS GREAT! I'M GLAD TO FIND SUCH PLEASANT NEIGHBORS. WHEN DID YOU ARRIVE IN FRANCE, MISS STORCH?

TODAY. WE'RE ON VACATION, OUR FIRST EUROPEAN TRIP. WE RENTED THIS HOUSE IN ADVANCE, SIGHT UNSEEN!

THEN YOU REALLY ARE NEWCOMERS HERE! LET ME PLAY HOST AND GUIDE TOMORROW! WON'T YOU HAVE LUNCH AT MY PLACE?

WELL...I-I DON'T KNOW!



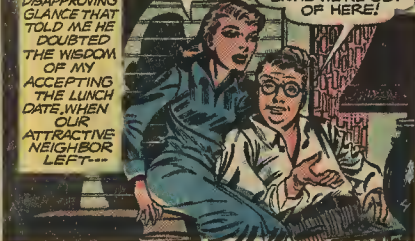
I WON'T TAKE, NO FOR AN ANSWER! I'LL CALL FOR YOU AND TOMMY TOMORROW AT NOON. IT'LL BE A NICE DAY TOMORROW... IT'S CLEARING UP ALREADY!

THANKS, NEIGHBOR! BUT I CAN'T GO! I WENT TO A LOT OF FAREWELL PARTIES BEFORE I LEFT HOME. IT'LL TAKE ME A COUPLE OF DAYS TO CATCH UP ON MY SLEEP!

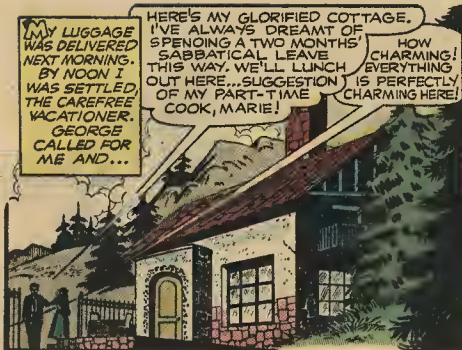
AS GEORGE MARSHALL TURNED TO GO OUT, TOMMY CAST ME A QUICK, DISAPPROVING GLANCE THAT TOLD ME HE DOUBTED THE WISDOM OF MY ACCEPTING THE LUNCH DATE, WHEN OUR ATTRACTIVE NEIGHBOR LEFT---

IF WE BOTH ACT LIKE HERMITS, WE'LL REALLY INVITE CURIOSITY. TOMMY BOY, YOU KNOW I'LL NEVER DO ANYTHING TO HARM YOU!

I KNOW THAT YOU'VE ALWAYS HELPED ME. OKAY... KID THAT MATH TEACHER ALONG... FRIENDLY NEIGHBOR STUFF... UNTIL WE'RE OUT OF HERE!



SWEETHEARTS



MY LUGGAGE WAS DELIVERED NEXT MORNING. BY NOON I WAS SETTLED, THE CAREFREE VACATIONER.

GEORGE CALLED FOR ME AND...

HERE'S MY GLORIFIED COTTAGE. I'VE ALWAYS DREAMT OF SPENDING A TWO MONTHS' SABBATICAL LEAVE THIS WAY. WE'LL LUNCH OUT HERE... SUGGESTION OF MY PART-TIME COOK, MARIE!

HOW CHARMING! EVERYTHING IS PERFECTLY CHARMING HERE!



AH, MONSIEUR MARSHALL-- MADAMOISELLE IS ALL YOU DESCRIBED! THE BLUE EYES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN, THE FACE OF THE BEAUTIFUL FLOWER!

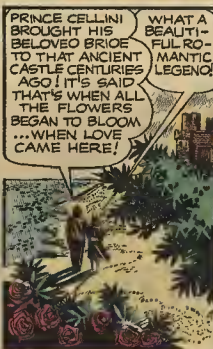
MONSIEUR WAS EXAGGERATING, MARIE. IT'S THE AIR UP HERE THAT INTOXICATES HIM!



IT WASN'T EXAGGERATING AT ALL! NOW FOR OUR PLANS. I'VE RENTED A CAR THAT WILL GO ANYWHERE YOU SAY... ANYWHERE FROM ROSE GARDENS TO THE SEASHORE!

ROSE GARDENS? WHERE ARE THEY?

ROSES BLOOMED IN PROFUSION. I LEARNED, ALL OVER THE COAST. AFTER LUNCH WE DROVE OUT TO AN IDYLIC BREATHTAKING SPOT WHERE THE FRAGRANT FLOWERS DIPPED ALMOST INTO THE SEA... AND THERE...



PRINCE CELLINI BROUGHT HIS BELOVED BRIDE TO THAT ANCIENT CASTLE CENTURIES AGO! IT'S SAID THAT'S WHEN ALL THE FLOWERS BEGAN TO BLOOM... WHEN LOVE CAME HERE!

WHAT A BEAUTIFUL ROMANTIC LEGEND!



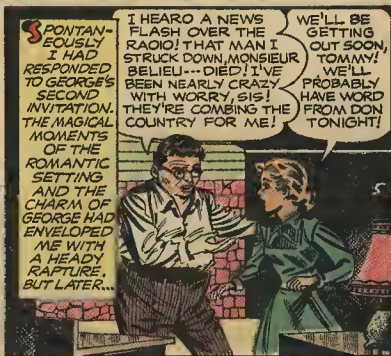
AND I HAVE A DREAM FOR ALL MY LIFE THAT INCLUDES SOMEONE LIKE YOU, HARRIET!

WE ARE VACATIONERS. WE ONLY WANT TO THINK IN FLEETING TRANSIENT TERMS, GEORGE! IT'S GETTING LATE... I MUST GET BACK!



WHAT ABOUT TOMORROW? IF YOU LIKE A SAILBOAT RIDE, WE CAN EXPLORE THE SEA!

I'D LOVE THAT!



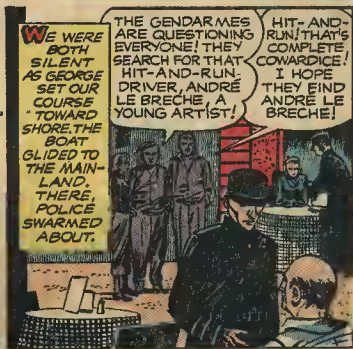
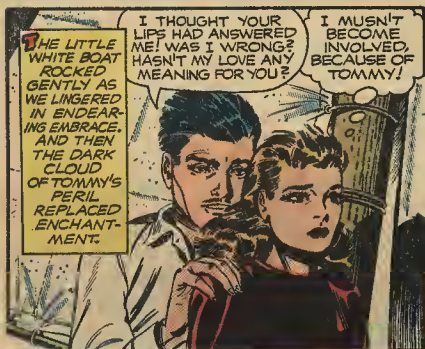
SPONTANEOUSLY I HAD RESPONDED TO GEORGE'S SECOND INVITATION. THE MAGICAL MOMENTS OF THE ROMANTIC SETTING AND THE CHARM OF GEORGE HAD ENVELOPED ME WITH A HEADY RAPTURE... BUT LATER...

I HEARD A NEWS FLASH OVER THE RADIO! THAT MAN I STRUCK DOWN, MONSIEUR BELIEU-- DIED! I'VE BEEN NEARLY CRAZY WITH WORRY, SIS! THEY'RE COMING THE COUNTRY FOR ME!

WE'LL BE GETTING OUT SOON, TOMMY! WE'LL PROBABLY HAVE WORD FROM DON TONIGHT!

SWEETHEARTS

BUT NO WORD
CAME FROM DON.
THE NEXT DAY,
WHEN GEORGE
STOPPED BY FOR
ME, I YIELDED
TO HIS INVITA-
TION. AT FIRST
I COULDN'T
FORGET
THE HEAVY
ANXIETY I
FELT FOR TOMMY
AND THE
MANSLAUGHTER
CHARGE HE
WOULD NOW
FACE, IF CAUGHT.
BUT SAILING
ON THE BRIGHT
BLUE SEA, I
DRIFTED
HELPLESSLY
FROM THE CLOUD
OF TRAGEDY...



SWEETHEARTS

OBVIOUS TO THE CROWD, GEORGE ENVELOPED ME IN HIS ARMS. WE WERE ROMANTICALLY WRAPPED IN EACH OTHER AS TWO GENDARMES STEPPED UP TO US.

HA! THE LOVE... L'AMOUR... L'AMOUR!

YOU BET IT IS! REAL LOVE!

MY GIRL'S JUST SAID YES! EXCUSE ME WHILE I KISS HER AGAIN!

AH, THE KISS! THE GREAT COMPOSER, VICTOR HERBERT, WROTE OF IT --- "KISS ME AGAIN", WE DO NOT LIKE TO INTERRUPT, BUT WE MUST APPLY A MERE FORMALITY, YOUR NAMES, PLEASE!

I'M GEORGE MARSHALL. MY GIRL IS HARRIET STORCH. WE'RE AMERICANS! DO YOU WANT TO SEE OUR PASSPORTS?

DON'T TROUBLE YOURSELVES! WE ARE SEARCHING FOR A HIT-AND-RUN DRIVER, ANDRÉ LE BRECHE. YOU HAPPY LOVERS WOULD KNOW NOTHING OF THAT. COME, FRANÇOIS!

FLOWERS FOR YOUR LADY... ROSES, VIOLETS...

HERE! I'LL BUY ALL OF THEM! FLOWERS BECOME MY GIRL!

IN GLORIOUS SUNSET WE DROVE BACK TO THE HILLTOP HOUSE, THE FRAGRANT FLOWERS OVERFLOWING MY ARMS. GEORGE CAME INTO THE HOUSE WITH ME. TOMMY WAS NOWHERE AROUND.

TOMMY'S PROBABLY GONE OUT HOLIDAYING. COME BACK TO THE VILLA WITH ME AND HAVE DINNER!

I'M VERY TIRED, DARLING. I'LL HAVE A SNACK HERE AND GET TO SLEEP EARLY!

OKAY---I'LL CALL FOR YOU BRIGHT AND EARLY TOMORROW MORNING!

WHERE IS TOMMY? THAT PAPER UNDER THE BOOK... IT WASN'T THERE WHEN I LEFT THE HOUSE. IT'S FOR ME... A MESSAGE!

A MOMENT LATER GEORGE WAS GONE. I PICKED UP THE NOTE...

TONIGHT... LESS THAN TWO HOURS FROM NOW! I MUST HURRY.

Sis - Don contacted me. Plans changed for tonight. I couldn't go. I'm already gone with him. Meet me at 8 tonight. Love, Aileen.

SWEETHEARTS

THERE WAS STILL A LINGERING MEMORY OF THE DAYS ENCHANTMENT. RESOLUTELY I BLOTTED IT OUT AND HASTILY PACKED MY CLOTHES. TOMMY HAD TAKEN ALL HIS POSSESSIONS, BUT IN HIS HURRY HE HAD FORGOTTEN ONE OF HIS PAINTINGS.

THE TELL-TALE SIGNATURE IS ON IT... ANDRÉ LE BRECHE! I WON'T RISK TAKING IT ALONG... I'LL BURN IT! THAT MUST BE THE TAXI I PHONED FOR.

KNOCK! KNOCK!

GEORGE! I HAD TO COME BACK! I WORRIED ABOUT YOU, ALONE HERE. A MAN IS BEING HUNTED IN THIS AREA, ANDRÉ LE BRECHE! SUPPOSE HE COMES HERE?

GEORGE, DON'T BE SUCH A WORRY-BIRD! NOTHING LIKE THAT WILL HAPPEN. GO BACK TO YOUR VILLA, DARLING, AND STOP GETTING SUCH WILD IDEAS!

WAIT A MINUTE! WHAT'S THAT TRUNK DOING HERE? WHY SHOULD YOU BE PACKING A TRUNK? WHAT'S ALL THIS, HARRIET?

MY CONFUSED ATTEMPT AT AN ADEQUATE EXPLANATION FURTHER HEIGHTENED GEORGE'S SUSPICIONS. IN MY DESPERATE ANXIETY, I ACCIDENTALLY BRUSHED AGAINST TOMMY'S PAINTING. GEORGE CAUGHT IT, STARING AT IT.

A PAINTING...AND SIGNED ANDRÉ LE BRECHE! HOW COULD YOU HAVE A LE BRECHE PICTURE IF YOU AND YOUR BROTHER SO RECENTLY ARRIVED IN FRANCE? LE BRECHE'S STUFF HASN'T SOLD OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY, AND YOU HAVEN'T SHOPPED FOR ARTWORK! THERE'S NO WAY, UNLESS...TOMMY IS LE BRECHE... ISN'T HE?

SO YOU'LL STOP AT NOTHING TO PROTECT HIM! NOW I UNDERSTAND YOUR SUDDEN LOVE FOR ME WHEN THE POLICE WERE ABOUT TO ASK QUESTIONS! A VERY CLEVER, HEARTLESS PIECE OF BUSINESS! WHERE ARE YOU GOING...TO MEET TOMMY?

YES! AND YOU'RE NOT GOING TO STOP HIM OR ME!

I WON'T STOP YOU. BUT YOU'RE NOT REALLY HELPING HIM BY SHIELDING HIS WRONGDOING! HE HAS TO STAND UP TO HIS MISTAKES!

STOP IT! STOP PREACHING TO ME! GET OUT!

SWEETHEARTS

FACE LIVID, GEORGE STRODE OUT THE DOOR... OUT OF MY LIFE, SOON AFTER, THE TAXI ARRIVED AND I WAS SPED TO THE AIRPORT, A SMALL PRIVATELY OWNED FIELD.

DON'T BE SILLY, DON... I'M NOT CRYING! AND IF I AM, IT'S OUT OF HAPPINESS THAT TOMMY IS SAFE!

SENTIMENTAL SIS! THIS CALLS FOR A BIG CELEBRATION! LET'S HIT IT UP... GOT A BOTTLE WITH YOU, DON?

SPECIAL...FOR ALL OF US! YOU'LL GET THE SECOND DRINK, TOMMY, HARRIET DESERVES THE FIRST!

TO SIS---WHO ALWAYS STUCK BY ME! RE-MEMBER, SIS, WHEN I WAS A KID, AND PLAYED HOOKEY FROM SCHOOL? HOW YOU FIXED IT UP WITH THE TRUANT OFFICER!

I REMEMBERED TOO VIVIDLY, PAINFULLY, JUST AS I WAS REMEMBERING THIS DAY AS PAINFULLY. AND NOW IN TOMMY'S REMINISCENCE OF HOW I HAD SO OFTEN HELPED HIM OUT OF TROUBLE, THE PICTURE OF GEORGE'S CONDEMNATION RETURNED.

SIS WON'T MIND MY TAKING THE FIRST DRINK, DON!

"SIS WON'T MIND"... IT'S ALWAYS BEEN THAT WAY. WHATEVER MISTAKES TOMMY MADE, I CONDONED. BABIED HIM, SPOILED HIM. GEORGE IS RIGHT!

THIS IS A TIME FOR SHAME AND GUILT, NOT CELEBRATION! I'M TO BLAME FOR ALWAYS PERMITTING YOU TO GET YOUR OWN WAY! AND YOU'RE TO BLAME FOR ALWAYS TAKING THE EASY WAY! YOU KILLED A MAN... FACE IT. DON'T KEEP RUNNING!

ARE YOU CRAZY, SIS? I'M NOT GOING BACK TO GET MYSELF ARRESTED!

WHAT'S GOT INTO YOU, HARRIET? I WANT TO MARRY YOU AND I'VE A REPUTATION TO MAINTAIN! HOW WOULD IT LOOK IF THE BROTHER OF MY FUTURE WIFE IS JAILBIRD?

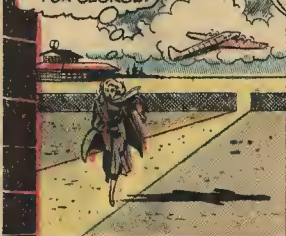
WOMAN'S REASONING FILLED ME WITH REVULSION. IT WAS THE WEAKNESS OF SNOBBERY THAT HAD GOADED HIM ON TO SAFEGUARD TOMMY. I COULDN'T CONTINUE WITH HIM AND MY BROTHER ANY LONGER IN THIS SHAMEFUL FLIGHT. AT OUR FIRST STOP, SOUTHAMPTON, ENGLAND, I HURRIEDLY ALIGHTED FROM THE PLANE, TEARS FLOWING DOWN MY FACE.

I'LL GO THE REST OF THE TRIP ALONE! FROM NOW ON I'LL ALWAYS BE ALONE, WITH A SHATTERED DREAM... A FRAGMENT OF MEMORY OF MY LOVE FOR GEORGE!

SIS!

TOMMY! I THOUGHT YOU---

I STEPPED OFF THE PLANE HALF A MINUTE AFTER YOU DID! WHEN YOU TURNED AGAINST ME, IT WAS LIKE ICE WATER, SHOCKING, NUMBING! BUT IT WOKE ME UP... I'VE GOT TO TAKE MY PUNISHMENT!

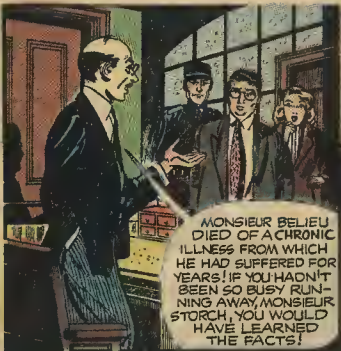


SWEETHEARTS

FOR THE FIRST TIME THERE WAS STRENGTH IN TOMMY. HE HELD HIS HEAD HIGH, HIS EYES WERE CLEAR AND BRIGHT. MANFULLY HE WAS READY TO PAY FOR HIS WRONG. WE TOOK THE NEXT PLANE BACK TO THE SOUTH OF FRANCE THERE...

AND THAT'S IT! CONFESSION OF TOMMY STORCH ALIAS ANDRÉ LE BRECHE... CONFESSION OF MANSLAUGHTER!

THE CHARGE IS A SERIOUS ONE... BUT NOT MANSLAUGHTER! MONSIEUR BELIEU DIDN'T DIE OF THE ACCIDENT INJURIES!



MONSIEUR BELIEU DIED OF A CHRONIC ILLNESS FROM WHICH HE HAD SUFFERED FOR YEARS! IF YOU HADN'T BEEN SO BUSY RUNNING AWAY, MONSIEUR STORCH, YOU WOULD HAVE LEARNED THE FACTS!

TOMMY'S TRIAL TOOK PLACE TWO DAYS LATER. I WAS IN THE COURTROOM, MY HEART FILLED WITH PRIDEFUL SISTERLY LOVE FOR THE NEW TOMMY... AND MY HEART FILLED WITH THE SORROW OF LOST ROMANTIC LOVE. AND THEN MY HEART LEAPT IN A BURST OF JOY. GEORGE WAS THERE, MOVING TOWARD ME!

AS SOON AS I HEARD ABOUT THIS I CAME BACK. I HAD LEFT FRANCE IN FLIGHT, TOO... FLIGHT FROM YOUR MEMORY! WE'LL SHARE THE VERDICT TOGETHER, HARRIET!

THE JUDGE IS ABOUT TO PRONOUNCE IT NOW!



GUILTY! AND THIS COURT SENTENCES YOU, TOM STORCH, TO ONE YEAR IMPRISONMENT! IN VIEW OF YOUR VOLUNTARY CONFESSION AND THAT MONSIEUR BELIEU'S DEATH WAS NOT A RESULT OF THE ACCIDENT, YOU ARE SAVED FROM A FAR HEAVIER SENTENCE. NEVER FORGET THAT!

TOMMY WILL NEVER FORGET... AND NEITHER WILL I!



THAT YEAR WILL PASS, AND WE'LL WELCOME TOMMY HOME... I SAY "WE", IF THAT'S YOUR VERDICT. I HAVEN'T STOPPED LOVING YOU!

MY VERDICT IS ONE OF LOVE. I LOVE YOU DEARLY... IT WAS SO WRONG OF ME. I COULD HAVE WRECKED TOMMY'S LIFE, AND MY OWN!

GEORGE AND I PAID A VISIT TO TOMMY AT THE PRISON. WE BADE HIM A TEMPORARY GOODBYE... UNTIL NEXT YEAR WE KNEW, AS TOMMY DID THAT HE WOULD BEAR UP WELL AND BE THE BETTER FOR IT. THEN I WAS AT THE AIRPORT FOR ANOTHER TRIP... A JOURNEY BACK HOME. A FAR DIFFERENT FLIGHT THIS TIME, ONE OF PRIDEFUL, RADIANT HAPPINESS.

AS SOON AS WE GET HOME WE'LL BE MARRIED. OUR HOME, MY DARLING, WON'T BE A VILLA... JUST A BUNGALOW NEAR THE SCHOOL!

CALL IT PARADISE! THAT'S WHAT IT WILL MEAN TO ME!



THE END

ROMANCE SHY



THE CUSTOMER, who had been browsing around the antique shop for ten minutes, finally looked up. "Not a very good selection," he said. "I don't mean the variety, Mr. Fillmore—you've plenty of that, but the quality."

"I know," Dan Fillmore, proprietor of the shop said, a trifle bitterly. "You see, sir, I've just been in charge of the place for about a month, since my dad died." He flushed. "You don't get much chance at acquiring a business sense for antiques in college." He sighed. "Well, perhaps you'll come back next week."

"Perhaps," the customer said. "Good day."

The tinkle of the doorbell sounded behind him. Dan glanced anxiously at the clock. Vergy was late—an hour late, already, and Benson had phoned about the auction.

The doorbell tinkled again. Dan looked up from his inventory book as Vergy came in. She was ravishing, as usual, her hair done up in a peruke. She smiled.

"Gosh, Vergy, where've you been?" Dan asked anxiously. "You promised to go up to Benson's for me and bid on a few pieces. You know I can't leave the store this afternoon. I'm expecting a man from the tax department to clear up some of dad's old papers!"

Vergy sighed, patting her hair. She looked at the engagement ring Dan had given her and then back at Dan.

"I know I promised, Dan darling," she said uncertainly. "But you know how I am with people. I'm just shy. And besides, after thinking it over, I just don't think it's right for a Randall to engage in business. It's a little vulgar, and even if we did lose all our money in the crash . . ."

"Vergy . . . !" Dan's tone was patient, but firm. "Both of us are living in the present, not the past. There's nothing vulgar about business. I'm in business, and after we're married, you'll be in business, because you'll automatically own half of what I own."

"But, Dan!" Vergy's protest had a tone of

fastidious horror in it. "Bidding against a whole bunch of other people—why it's just like horse-trading!"

"And what's wrong with horse-trading, or any other legitimate trading?" His voice became exasperated. "Look, Vergy, I'm not asking you to peddle papers. I'm just asking you to take a bidding list to Benson's auction. If I don't get some new stuff to sell, this store will go out of business!"

Vergy ran a hand through his hair. "Now, Dan . . ." she began prettily. "After all, suppose it does? You can always get a job! I don't exactly relish the thought of being a shopkeeper all my life. Why—why if you took a job in a broker's office, or with a good bank . . ."

Dan looked at her gravely. "Vergy, I can see you're still living in the past. You've got some idea that your family are still some kind of aristocrats!"

"Why I—I have not!" she cried.

"Oh, yes, you have," he said severely. "And I know why you want me to take a job somewhere with a bank or in a broker's office. You think that sort of thing's a little higher, socially, than being a commercial shopkeeper, selling things. But it's all commercial—and all the same really. Vergy . . ." He glanced at her sadly. "I didn't think you were really a snob!"

"A snob! Well . . . !" Quickly she tore off her engagement ring, put it down on the cash desk and tossed her head. "If you think I'm a snob, I certainly wouldn't want to marry you!"

"Vergy, you are being snobbish—and I wish you weren't!"

"Well . . . !" she halted at the door and glanced back, scornfully. "At least now I won't have to spend the rest of my life selling other people's cast-off furniture!" The door slammed behind her.

Romance Shy

(Continued from inside front cover)

Mournfully Dan picked up the phone, dialed Benson's number and told the wholesale dealer neither he nor a representative would be there to bid.

After he put the phone down, he saw the engagement ring Vergy had given back lying on the cash desk. He picked it up and shook his head sadly, but put it away quickly as the man from the tax department came in.

Two hours later, the last paper difficulty in the way of Dan's assuming full control of his father's business was out of the way. He stood back and observed the result: a shop full of rather ordinary antiques, a rent bill coming due, a bank balance getting toward the slim side, and—Vergy's engagement ring.

Dan sighed. He hadn't thought Vergy was going to be like that. But sighing, he knew, didn't help matters. Whatever happened, like the rest of the world, he had to get on from day to day.

He picked up the paper and turned to the auction notices. It was important, he knew, to recoup the losses in acquisitions he'd suffered when Vergy had failed to put in an appearance at Benson's auction.

But there wasn't anything special listed. Just a few sales of ordinary antiques from some of the older houses in town. But nothing else.

Dan stared out of the window. A month more, he knew, and the firm of Dan Fillmore, Antiques, would be a thing of the past—just like his engagement to Vergy.

On Saturday at three o'clock, he was desperate.

The doorbell suddenly tinkled. Looking up, Dan saw a truck parked outside. Two hefty truckers began unloading antiques and carrying them in.

"Hey—wait a minute!" Dan called out.

"You're Dan Fillmore, aren't you?" one of the truckers said.

Dan nodded.

"Then here's the bill for this stuff. It's all bought at Benson's in your name." The trucker handed Dan the bill, ignored his protests, and,

together with the other trucker, kept bringing in pieces.

"But I tell you I didn't buy any of this stuff!" Dan cried.

"Oh, yes you did!" A voice said at his side.

Dan whirled. "Vergy!"

"I bought it for you at auction, Dan darling," Vergy said, smiling sweetly. "Of course, you'll have to pay for it, but . . ." She paused. "Dan, sweetheart, look—I've been the biggest fool in town. I knew I was the minute I walked out of the store. But I couldn't come back until I'd unmade myself a fool. You see, I really couldn't stand being away from you. That's why I started reading up on antiques in the library and reading books on bidding techniques!"

"You—you did?" Dan asked, wide-eyed.

"Certainly—and old newspaper files, too. And I read the notices of Benson's auctions today. In the old files I found out something else. Once, during the Revolution, Washington and some of his aides held a short meeting in this town while advancing on the British. Most people have forgotten it, but it was mentioned in those old, forgotten newspapers. And I also noticed that the places they stayed at were the three houses the furniture at today's auction at Benson's came from." She pointed. "See that bed? Ben Franklin slept in it. That chair? Alexander Hamilton fell over it. That hat-rack? Sam Adams hung a cloak on it!"

"B-But—but the other buyers!" Dan protested weakly.

"Oh, they didn't believe any of it when the people who owned them said so. But I'd read the old newspaper accounts—and I knew they were authentic!" She grinned. "And it was a lot of fun beating them at their own game!"

He smiled and took her in his arms, oblivious to the truckers. "Vergy," he said "You're wonderful!"

"Well," she began, "I figured, if you could go into a new business for eatables, so could I—for love." She paused and winked. "And speaking of more modern things, where's that engagement ring? I'm planning to make it a Fillmore family antique!"

THE END

SWEETHEARTS

Susan's heart truly chose love...it was her eyes that practiced deception....

LOVE UNSEEN

WHY SHOULD I SETTLE FOR TODD... WHO IS JUST A SMALL PART THE MAN MATT IS? AFTER ALL, I HAVE A NEW LIFE NOW!

TODD WAS WILLING TO SHARE A LIFETIME WITH PART OF A GIRL... A BLIND ONE!



NO OTHERS, WE WERE JUST A GIRL AND A BOY WALKING HAND IN HAND ALONG A COUNTRY ROAD BY MOONLIGHT. BUT IT WASN'T AS SIMPLE AS THAT, MY RELATIONSHIP WITH TODD, HIS HAND WAS GUIDING ME THROUGH DARKNESS....

THE SKY IS LIKE VELVET... AND THE MOON IS AS ROUND AS A HALF DOLLAR!

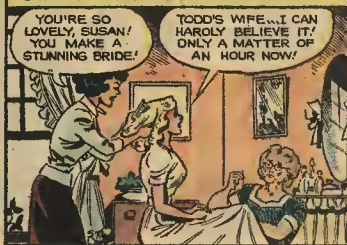
HE IS MY SIGHT, MY DREAMS...MY CHANCE FOR HAPPINESS!



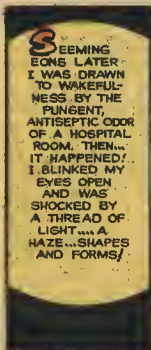
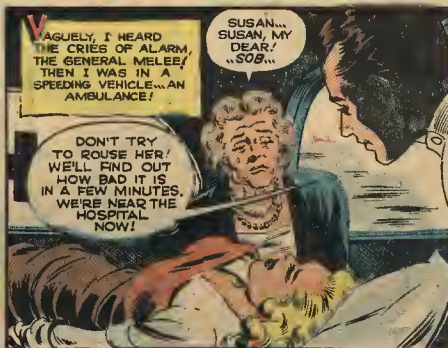
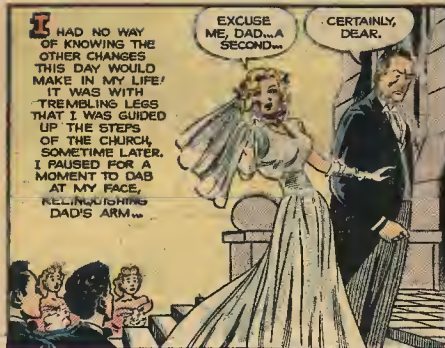
I WAS BORN BLIND... AND SINCE THE TIME WHEN WE WERE CHILDREN TOGETHER, TODD HAD BEEN MY CONSTANT COMPANION. AND NOW, AS SIS HELPED COMB MY HAIR AND MOTHER ARRANGED MY BRIDAL GOWN, MY HEART BEAT WITH THE REALIZATION THAT I WAS TO BE MARRIED ON THIS DAY!

YOU'RE SO LOVELY, SUSAN! YOU MAKE A STUNNING BRIDE!

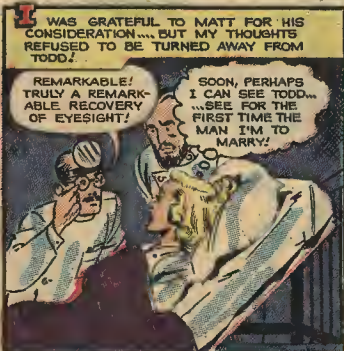
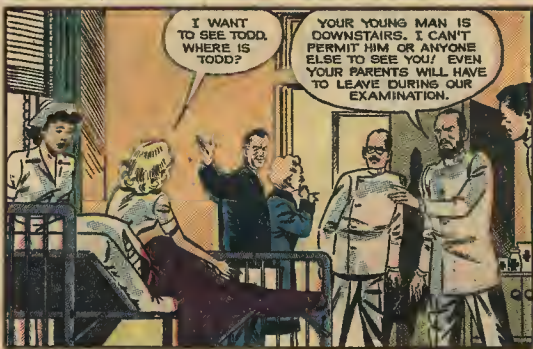
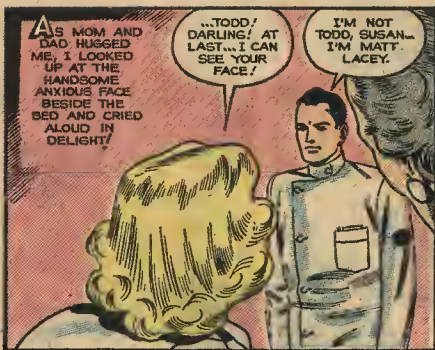
TODD'S WIFE...I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT! ONLY A MATTER OF AN HOUR NOW!



SWEETHEARTS

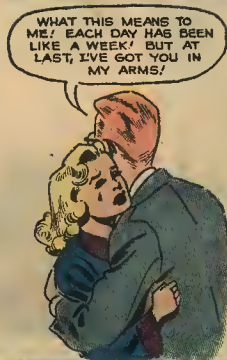
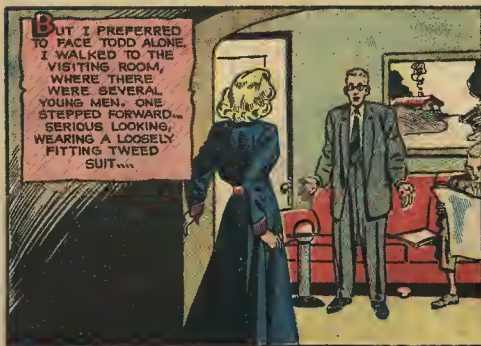
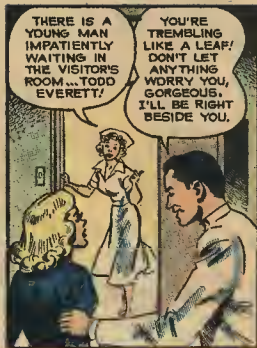
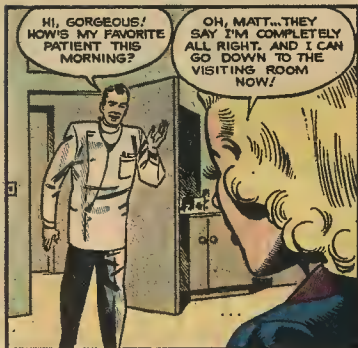


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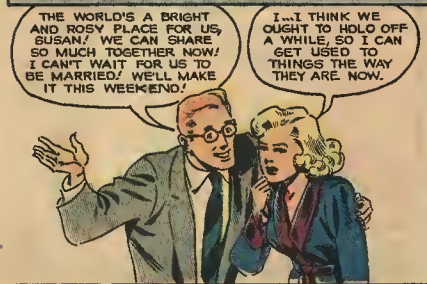


SWEETHEARTS

I LAY QUIETLY FOR SEVERAL DAYS, SECLUDED FROM ALL BUT THE DOCTORS, AMONG WHOM MATT WAS A CONSTANT VISITOR. BUT ALL THE WHILE I KEPT BUILDING UP THE IMAGE OF TODD. THEN, AT LAST, CAME THE DAY.



I WEPT AS TODD EMBRACED ME, AND I WONDERED, AS I SHED THE TEARS, WHETHER SOME OF THEM WERE TEARS OF DISAPPOINTMENT. BUT I SHRUGGED OFF THE THOUGHT!



SWEETHEARTS

THE NEXT FEW WEEKS BEGAN A NEW LIFE FOR ME! SEVERAL YOUNG MEN ABOUT TOWN SUDDENLY BECAME ATTENTIVE, BUT IT WAS MATT WHO HELPED ME SO MUCH. AND I LEARNED REMARKABLY FAST!

WATCH OUT FOR THIS SERVE, MATT!

THIS IS SUCH FUN, MATT!

HOW'S THAT DRIVE, MATT?

YOU'RE WONDERFUL, SUSAN!

HOW ABOUT A DATE TONIGHT, BEAUTIFUL?

IGNORE HIM, SUSAN. I'M THE LAD WHO CAN REALLY SHOW YOU A TIME!

TODD WAS PLEASANT, PATIENT, TAKING A LOT OF PRIOR IN MY NEW POPULARITY. IT ALL WENT WELL UNTIL THE DAY TODD CAUGHT MATT KISSING ME AFTER A DATE. AND I WAS RESPONDING!



YOU'RE HEAVEN TO HOLD, SUSAN!

OH... MATT! MATT!

TODD! I... I...

I HAVE BEEN WILLING TO STAND BY... TO SEE YOU ENJOY THE THINGS YOU'VE MISSED! BUT I WON'T BE MADE A FOOL OF!

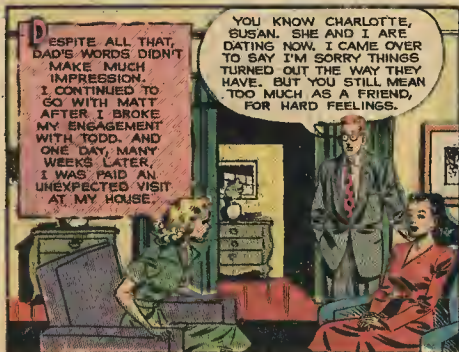
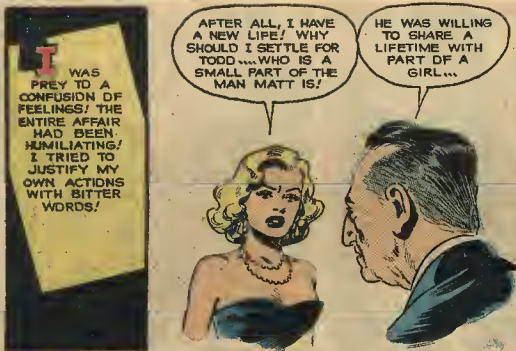
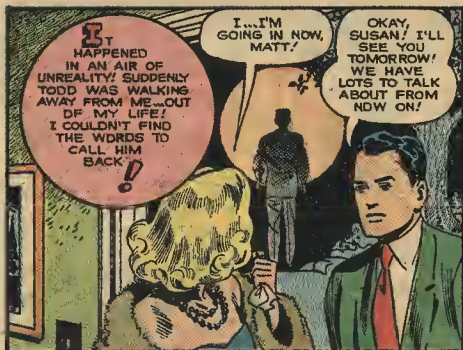
STOP MAKING A MELO-DRAMA OUT OF THIS, TODD!

YOU KEEP OUT OF IT, YOU... UHH!

NOW TAKE A WALK!

NOT A WORD FROM YOU, SUSAN? ALL RIGHT... IT'S ALL CLEAR ENOUGH TO ME NOW!

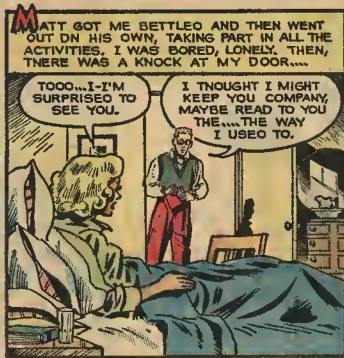
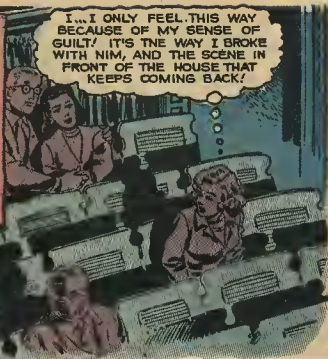
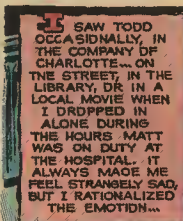
SWEETHEARTS



SWEETHEARTS



SWEETHEARTS

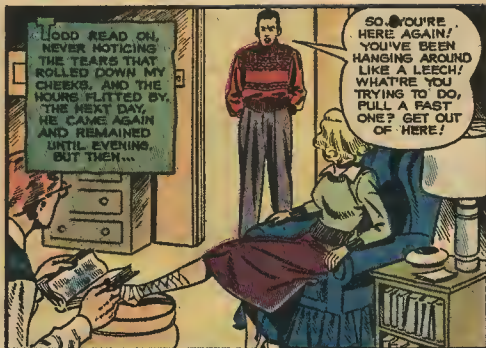


SWEETHEARTS

"YOU ASK ME WHAT SHE IS, THIS WOMAN I PROFFER TO LOVE. SHE IS THE EARTH I WALK UPON, THE AIR I BREATHE...ALL MUSIC...ALL LAUGHTER, ALL TEARS! YES, MY BROTHER..."

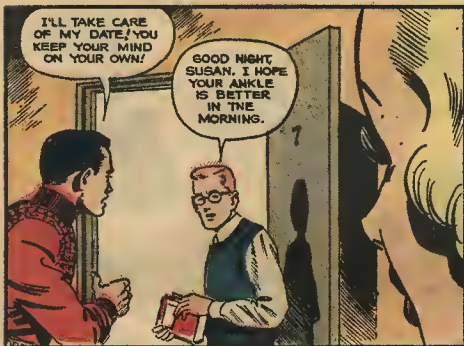


TODD READ ON, NEVER NOTICING THE TEARS THAT ROLLED DOWN MY CHEEKS, AND THE HOURS FLITTED BY. THE NEXT DAY, HE CAME AGAIN AND REMAINED UNTIL EVENING, BUT THEN...



I'LL TAKE CARE OF MY DATE! YOU KEEP YOUR MIND ON YOUR OWN!

GOOD NIGHT, SUSAN. I HOPE YOUR ANKLE IS BETTER IN THE MORNING.



WHEN TODD WALKED OUT I COULDN'T RESTRAIN MYSELF. IN A RUSH OF TEARS AND ANGER OF FULL REALIZATION, I DENOUNCED MATT!

YOU DUGHT TO BE THE ONE TO GET OUT! WHEN I'M SOMETHING FOR YOU TO SHOW OFF TO YOUR FRIENDS, I'M ALL RIGHT! BUT AS SOON AS I'M DOWN...YOU FIND OTHER ENTERTAINMENT! TODD ALWAYS THOUGHT OF ME...WANTED ME...NEEDED ME!

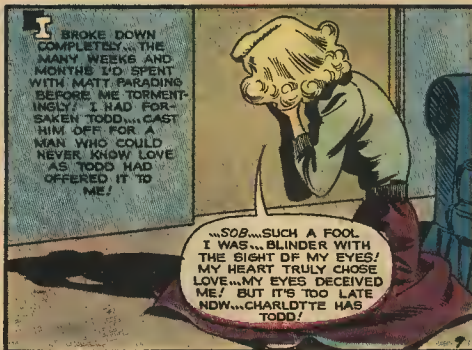


I GET IT! YOU LOVE HIM! THIS IS JUST AN EXCUSE TO GET RID OF ME AND GET HIM AGAIN! OKAY...IF THAT'S THE WAY YOU WANT IT...GOODBYE!

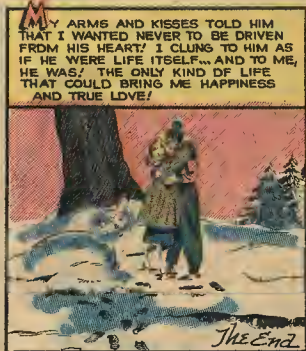
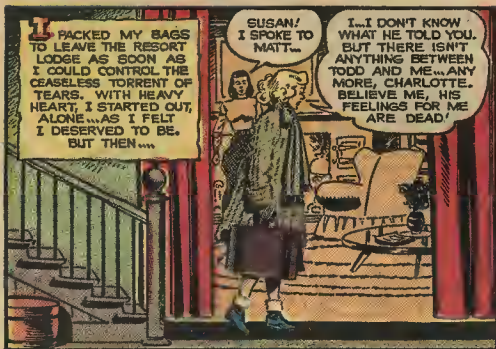


I BROKE DOWN COMPLETELY...THE MANY WEEKS AND MONTHS I'D SPENT WITH MATT, PARADING BEFORE ME TORTURINGLY, I HAD FORSAKEN TODD...CAST HIM OFF FOR A MAN WHO COULD NEVER KNOW LOVE AS TODD HAD OFFERED IT TO ME!

...SOB...SUCH A FOOL I WAS...BLINDER WITH THE SIGHT OF MY EYES! MY HEART TRULY CHOSE LOVE...MY EYES DECEIVED ME! BUT IT'S TOO LATE NOW...CHARLOTTTE HAS TODD!



SWEETHEARTS



WHAT WOULD YOU DO ?

II THOUGHT I LOVED FRED THURBER... THEN SUDDENLY HE VANISHED FROM MY LIFE! FOR A WHILE I WAS COMPLETELY DEVASTATED, UNTIL I REALIZED HOW MUCH BRENT TOWNLEY MEANT TO ME! NOW I WAS LEFT WITH A TERRIBLE PROBLEM...
AGG --- WHEN...

DON'T LOOK SO GLUM, KITTEN... THIS TRIP TO SOUTH AMERICA'LL BE OVER IN TWO, THREE MONTHS. WHEN I GET BACK WE'LL MAKE UP FOR LOST TIME!

I-I GUESS I'M JUST BEING SILLY, FRED, DEAR! I KNOW HOW MUCH THIS TRIP MEANS TO OUR FUTURE PLANS...



II HAD BECOME ACCUSTOMED TO RELYING ON FRED'S COMPANY THAT I WAS QUITE LOST THAT DAY HE DEPARTED. THEN THE FOLLOWING MORNING...

O-OH, NO... F-FRED'S LISTED AMONG THE CASUALTIES! ALL THE BODIES... BURNED BEYOND RECOGNITION! H-HE'S GONE...! SOB?... FOREVER!



I WENT COMPLETELY TO PIECES... LIFE HAD BECOME A WORTHLESS TRAVESTY TO ME, MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS TRIED FRANTICALLY TO ROUSE ME FROM MY AWFUL LETHARGY, BUT THEY COULDN'T...

HE'S BEEN NAGGING ME FOR AN INTRODUCTION, LUCY... THIS LUG IS BRENT TOWNLEY!



THAT FIRST MEETING SOMEHOW JARRED ME OUT OF MY DIFFIDENCE... MEETING BRENT WAS LIKE RECEIVING A LIFE-SAVING TRANSFUSION. HIS ATTENTIONS FLATTERED ME, AND AROUSED MY LONG DORMANT INTERESTS...

SINCE HE TALKED ME INTO MODELING FOR HIM, I FEEL AS IF I'VE STARTED A BRAND NEW EXISTENCE! BRENT'S ENTHUSIASM IS BRINGING EXCITEMENT BACK TO ME... AND DESIRES...



IT WAS INEVITABLE I SUPPOSE THAT MY LOST LOVE FOR FRED SHOULD TURN TO BRENT. THOUGH I NEVER MENTIONED HOW I FELT, HE SENSED MY PASSIONATE LONGING FOR HIM, AND...

I'M NOT MADE OF IRON, LU! I-I HOPE YOU'LL UNDERSTAND...

OF COURSE I DO, BRENT, DEAR! I'VE BEEN PRAYING YOU FEEL AS I DO ABOUT YOU!



FOR MONTHS I'D BEEN LIVING IN A DESOLATE NIGHTMARE. NOW BRENT'S CARESSES BROUGHT ME BACK TO COMPLETE RAPTURE... AND HIS ARDENT KISSES MADE MY BRAIN REEL WITH ECSTASY!



SWEETHEARTS

DELIRIOUS WITH HAPPINESS, I BECAME VIBRANT AGAIN IN THE GLOW OF THIS NEW AND EXCITING ROMANCE. DEEP WITHIN ME DAWNED THE REALIZATION THAT BRENT WAS THE TRUE LOVE OF MY LIFE. THEN, SUDDENLY...

I-IT ARRIVED THIS MORNING, DARLING! F-FRED THURBER...SURVIVED THAT GASTLY PLANE CRASH... HE WAS CARED FOR IN A JUNGLE VILLAGE! HE... ?SOB:...HE'S ON HIS WAY BACK HERE...



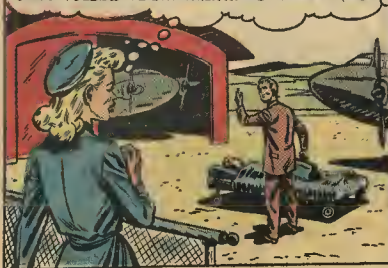
YOU'VE GOT TO TELL HIM, LU...ABOUT US! I'M SURE HE'LL UNDERSTAND WHEN YOU TELL HIM THAT WE'RE CRAZY ABOUT ONE ANOTHER!

Y-YES, DARLING...IT...IT'S THE ONLY WAY!



A SECOND TELEGRAM GAVE ME THE ARRIVAL TIME OF FRED'S PLANE AND, DETERMINED TO TELL HIM THE TRUTH ABOUT MY LOVE FOR BRENT, I WENT OUT TO THE AIRPORT...

ALL THE PASSENGERS HAVE GOTTEN OFF AND THERE'S NO SIGN OF...OH, NO, NO! THAT MAN IN THE WHITE JACKET, BESIDE THE STRETCHER...HE'S WAVING TO ME!



WITH DISMAY IN MY HEART, I RACED TOWARD THE STRETCHER. THE PATIENT WAS MORE LIKE A CADAVER THAN A LIVING PERSON... FRED'S FINGERS WERE COLD AS DEATH AS HE STROKED MY HAND WEAKLY.

I...I'VE COME BACK... TO YOU...KITEN...



AN AMBULANCE IS WAITING TO TAKE MR. THURBER DIRECTLY TO THE HOSPITAL! BE EXTREMELY CAREFUL NOT TO JAR HIM...

THAT PLEADING LOOK IN POOR FRED'S EYES...I COULDN'T BEAR TO TELL HIM NOW! LATER, PERHAPS...



YOU SHOULD BE DEEPLY FLATTERED... THE ONLY THING THAT'S KEPT HIM ALIVE IS THE KNOWLEDGE THAT YOU LOVE HIM! THAT FAITH IS ALL THAT'S GOING TO KEEP HIM ALIVE FOR THE NEXT CRUCIAL MONTHS, AFTER THAT HE'LL BE AS GOOD AS NEW!

IF I TELL FRED THE TRUTH, IT'LL KILL HIM! AND IF I DON'T, THE MAN I REALLY LOVE IS SURE TO THINK I WAS MERELY FLIRTING WITH HIM!



WHAT WOULD YOU DO? SEND YOUR SOLUTION TO THIS POIGNANT PROBLEM TO: EDITOR, CHARLTON COMICS, 1476 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N.Y.

The End

Now! The Amazing Facts about

BALDNESS

...AND WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT



The following facts are brought to the attention of the public because of a widespread belief that nothing can be done about hair loss. This belief has no basis in medical fact. Worse, it has condemned many men and women to needless baldness by their neglect to treat certain accepted causes of hair loss.

There are six principal types of hair loss, or *alopecia*, as it is known in medical terms:

1. Alopecia from diseases of the scalp
2. Alopecia from other diseases or from an improper functioning of the body
3. Alopecia of the aged (senile baldness)
4. Alopecia areata (loss of hair in patches)
5. Alopecia of the young (premature baldness)
6. Alopecia at birth (congenital baldness)

Senile, premature and congenital alopecia cannot be helped by anything now known to modern science. Alopecia from improper functioning of the body requires the advice and treatment of your family physician.

BUT MANY MEDICAL AUTHORITIES NOW BELIEVE A SPECIFIC SCALP DISEASE IS THE MOST COMMON CAUSE OF HAIR LOSS.

This disease is called *Seborrhea* and can be broadly classified into two clinical forms with the following symptoms:

1. **DRY SEBORRHEA:** The hair is dry, lifeless, and without gloss. A dry flaky dandruff is usually present with accompanying itching. Hair loss is considerable and increases with the progress of this disease.
2. **OILY SEBORRHEA:** The hair and scalp are oily and greasy. The hair is slightly sticky to the touch and has a tendency to mat together. Dandruff takes the form of head scales. Scalp is usually itchy. Hair loss is severe with baldness as the result.

Many doctors agree that to **NEGLECT** these symptoms of **DRY and OILY SEBORRHEA** is to **INVITE BALDNESS**.

Seborrhea is believed to be caused by three germ organisms — staphylococcus albus, pityrosporum ovale, and acne bacillus.

These germs attack the sebaceous gland causing an abnormal working of this fat gland. The hair follicle, completely surrounded by the enlarged diseased sebaceous gland, then begins to atrophy. The hair produced becomes smaller and smaller until the hair follicle dies. Baldness is the inevitable result. (See illustration.)

But seborrhea can be controlled, particularly in its early stages. The three germ organisms believed to cause seborrhea, can and should be eliminated before they destroy your normal hair growth.

A post-war development, Comate Medicinal Formula kills these three germ organisms on contact. Proof of Comate's germ-killing properties has been demonstrated in laboratory tests recently conducted by one of the leading testing laboratories in America. (Complete report on file and copies are available on request.)

When used as directed, Comate Medicinal Formula controls seborrhea—stimulates the flow of blood to the scalp—helps stop scalp itch and burn—improves the appearance of your hair and scalp—helps STOP HAIR LOSS due to seborrhea. Your hair looks more attractive and alive.

You may safely follow the example of thousands who first were skeptical, then curious, and finally decided to avail themselves of Comate Medicinal Formula.



DESTRUCTION OF HAIR FOLLICLES

Caused By Seborrhea

A — Dead hairs; B — Hair-destroying bacteria; C — Hypertrophied sebaceous glands; D — Atrophic follicles.

A Few of the Many Grateful Expressions By Users of Comate Medicinal Formula

"My hair was coming out for years and I tried everything. Nothing stopped it until I tried Comate. Now my hair has stopped coming out. It looks so much thicker. My friends have noticed my hair and they all say it looks so much better."

—Mrs. E. S. J., Stevenson, Ala.

"Your hair formula got rid of my dandruff; my head does not itch any more. I think it is the best of all of the formulas I have used."

—E. E., Hamilton, Ohio.

"Your formula is everything you claim it to be and the first 10 days trial freed me of a very bad case of dry seborrhea."

—J. E. M., Long Beach, Calif.

"I do want to say that just within five days I have obtained a great improvement in my hair. I do want to thank you and the Comate Laboratories for producing such a wonderful and amazing formula."

—M. M., Johnstown, Pa.

"I have found almost instant relief. My itching has stopped with one application."

—J. N., Stockton, Calif.

"My hair looks thicker, not falling out like it used to. Will not be without Comate in the house."

—R. W., Lonsdale, N. I.

"I haven't had any trouble with dandruff since I started using Comate."

—L. W. W., Galveston, Tex.

"This formula is everything if not more than you say it is. I am very happy with what it's doing for my hair."

—T. J., Las Cruces, New Mexico.

"I find it stops the itch and retards the hair fall. I am thankful for the help it has given me in regard to the terrible itching."

—R. B. L., Philadelphia, Pa.

"The bottle of Comate I got from you has done my hair so much good. My hair has been coming out and breaking off for about 21 years. It has improved so much."

—Mrs. J. E., Lisbon, Ga.

Today these benefits are available to you just as they were to these sincere men and women when they first read about Comate. If your hair is thinning, over-dry or over-oily—if you are troubled with dandruff with increasing hair loss—you may well be guided by the laboratory tests and the experience of thousands of grateful men and women.

Remember, if your hair loss is due to Seborrhea, Comate CAN and MUST help you. If it is due to causes beyond the reach of Comate Medicinal Formula, you have nothing to lose because our GUARANTY POLICY assures the return of your money unless delighted. So why delay when that delay may cause irreparable damage to your hair and scalp. Just mail the coupon below.

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☐ Send C.O.D. I will pay postman \$5.00 plus postal charges.

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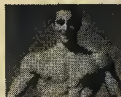
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City..... State.....

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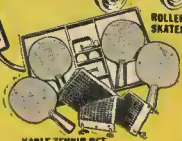
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